



THE CHINESE PEOPLE

A Race United Though Harassed By Baffling Domestic Problems



The Chinese keep their characteristics. They are a homogeneous people. They are never swallowed up. In spite of political divisions the people are united.

No people are fuller of promise or more capable of advancement than the Chinese. Europeans of all classes in China testified to Professor E. A. Ross that the intellectual capacity of the yellow race is equal to that of the white race.

In no country of the world does the student of the present day wield so much influence as in China.

An amazing intellectual and social revolution is in progress more significant than the political movement which overthrew the Monarchy and as far reaching as the Renaissance of the Middle Ages.

The destiny of the Chinese people is linked with ours. Her progress or regress will have a direct influence on our civilization. Her floods, famines and plagues affect us as does her intellectual awakening. The globe has shrunk. Distances have been shortened and China has become our neighbor.

It was John Hay who said, that whoever understands the Chinese politically, economically, and religiously has a key to world politics for the next five centuries. Professor John Dewey says that the real problem of the Pacific is the problem of the transformation of the mind of the Chinese.



China's hope is Character. Everything depends on the ideals she accepts. If she becomes Christian, China will make a new contribution to the West by re-interpreting Christ's ideals to us.

THE Y.M.C.A. IN CHINA

*A Virile, Autonomous, Self-Directing Movement—
Not a Static Institution*

"So far as I can make out, the Young Men's Christian Association today stands higher in the regard of China than any other form of Christianity—this because the Association has learned how to turn responsibilities over to the Chinese themselves and to reflect the decisions of the Chinese."—Bishop F. J. McConnell, Methodist Episcopal Church.



The Y. M. C. A. in China is an autonomous, self-directing, and self-propagating movement. It is controlled by national and local boards and committees of Chinese. It is not dominated by foreign influence. It is in the hands of competent Chinese Christian leaders.

The Y. M. C. A. is now organized in nearly forty of the leading commercial, educational, and political centers of the nation, is manned by 378 Chinese, and 81 foreign secretaries. The membership exceeds 54,000. There are 183 student Associations in schools and colleges.

The Movement is national in scope, united in purpose and identified with the best aspirations of the people. It is a powerful factor in molding new China.

Despite civil war, desperate financial depression, famine, flood, and banditry, the work of the Association for the past five years shows remarkable development. It has suffered, but by heroic efforts has overcome most of the handicaps. In 1922, 1,470 men and boys were introduced to church membership as compared with 958 of the previous year.

In spite of chaotic conditions in educational circles, groups of students in government schools studying the teachings and life of Christ have shown a marked increase. Student conferences held in thirteen places were attended by seventeen hundred students in one year.

The Association has striven to maintain Christian ideals in sport. It has demonstrated the place of play in the development of Christian character. It has launched and largely maintains the National Athletic Association; it promotes the Far Eastern Games; codifies the rules of games; holds training institutes for physical directors; supervises national hexathlon championships and conducts at least one nation-





wide health campaign a year. It has pioneered a dozen different forms of social service.

Men and boys in industry are being helped in seven of the big industrial centers of the country.

Work for boys during the past ten years has shown a healthy growth; the number of boys' departments in local Associations has increased from one to seventeen; the number of Associations reporting boys' work has jumped from one to twenty-five; the number of boys in the membership is more than 12,000. China sent seven secretaries to represent her boys at the World's Conference for Workers among Boys, in Austria.

Mass education campaigns planned to make whole communities literate were so successful in a number of cities that plans are on foot to tackle the job on a nation wide scale. Men and boys recruited in groups of a thousand are carried through a period of four months' study by volunteer teachers. When one group passes examinations, another thousand is recruited and instructed and so on until the task is completed. Follow-up courses in citizenship take care of the more ambitious ones.

Thrift campaigns were so efficiently pushed in nineteen different cities as to completely exhaust the first edition of charts published by the National Committee, in less than four months.

To keep unbroken the book-loving tradition of the Chinese and to encourage reading along Christian lines, the Association Press distributes books, pamphlets, and magazines to students, merchants, and officials all over the nation. In one year 171 different publications were distributed along with 64,000 copies of the national magazine.

No more important work is carried out than the training of Chinese secretaries for positions of responsibility. Aside from the regular training programs carried on in the larger cities, three peripatetic or travel study classes have been completed. Thirteen selected men were given special training on scholarships in America in one year. Summer Schools enrolling secretaries from every province have been held annually for the past half dozen years. Today 378 Chinese secretaries lead the movement.

Just before his death Dr. Wu Ting Fang, China's veteran statesman, told a business man in Canton that the thinking Chinese regarded the Young Men's Christian Association as the greatest agency for good in the nation.

The red triangles on the cover indicate City Associations only. There are 183 student associations.

